

PRESS RELEASE FROM THE OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN JOHN E. FOGARTY,
REPRESENTATIVE, SECOND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF RHODE ISLAND

FOR RELEASE TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 1964 PM

The Honorable John E. Fogarty, Representative from Rhode Island's Second Congressional District, has announced his plan to provide Federal support for the arts and humanities in a single bill.

Mr. Fogarty's proposal would combine the Senate-passed bill (S.2379) establishing a National Council on the Arts and a National Arts Foundation with his own bill (H.R. 324) to establish a National Institute of the Arts and Humanities. The Council would be in the Executive Office of the President, the Foundation would be an independent agency within the Executive Branch, and the Institute would be within the U.S. Office of Education.

Under the proposed plan, the National Council on the Arts would advise on the total needs and status of the arts in education and in public life; the National Arts Foundation would deal exclusively with the arts in public life and in grants-in-aid to the States and to groups; the National Institute of the Arts and Humanities would have its own advisory committee and would deal exclusively with the arts and humanities in education at all levels in its grants-in-aid and other programs.

Congressman Fogarty estimates the appropriations needed to support the bill as follows: Title I, the National Council on the Arts--\$100,000 annually; Title II, the National Arts Foundation--\$5 million for the first year and \$10 million for the next two years; Title III, the National Institute of the Arts and Humanities--\$3 million for the first year, \$5 million for the second, and \$8 million for the third.

Congressman Fogarty believes that such a three-pronged approach to recognition and support of the arts and humanities is essential to cope with the many pressing needs of these diverse fields. He feels that we must attack these problems at all levels. Our institutions of higher education, our elementary and secondary schools, and other groups need support and encouragement for their programs in the arts and humanities if they are to nourish our creative and scholastic talent wherever it exists. He believes the ideal means for achieving this is through a National Institute within the U.S. Office of Education under the vigorous leadership of men like Commissioner of Education Francis Keppel. Congressman Fogarty points out that a pattern of Federal assistance to State agencies, institutions of higher education, and related groups, through the Office of Education has already been established and is working effectively. He feels that the legislation he is proposing will help meet not only the needs of the arts and humanities in their educational context, but also the needs of the arts in public life as an outgrowth of our educational programs.